

### THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for automatically generating a software application on a first computer, comprising:

defining a system design;  
creating a design database file associated with said system design;  
converting said design database file to a meta document;  
generating an installation program from said meta document; and  
installing at least part of said software application by executing said installation program.

2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising transmitting said installation program from said first computer to a second computer.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein generating an installation program from said meta document comprises creating a setup package to automate at least part of an installation and a customization of said software application.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein generating an installation program from said meta document comprises creating one or more files to allow said software application to be installed on a second computer.

5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising configuring and customizing said software application.

6. The method of Claim 1, wherein defining a system design comprises defining a first entity and at least one attribute associated with said first entity.

7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:  
defining a second entity; and  
defining a relationship between said first and second entities.

8. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:  
defining a second entity; and  
defining a predefined search associated with at least one of said first and second entities.

9. The method of Claim 1, wherein installing said software application comprises:  
configuring a target database server; and  
establishing communication between said target database server and at least one generated software application file.

10. The method of Claim 9, wherein installing at least part of said software application further comprises installing reports server software on an application server.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein installing at least part of said software application further comprises installing application code to create and update a key generation table.

12. The method of Claim 9, wherein installing at least part of said software application further comprises providing a web server access to said at least one generated software application file.

13. The method of Claim 9, wherein installing at least part of said software application further comprises placing at least one hook in at least one web page and installing application code to process said at least one hook.

14. A system for developing a computer-generated software application, comprising:

a designer computer;

a design application residing on said designer computer, said design application configured to receive a system design and create a design database file;

a generator application in communication with said design application, configured to receive said design database file and generate said computer-generated software application, wherein said computer-generated software application includes a presentation tier, a business tier and a data tier.

15. The system of Claim 14, wherein said system design comprises at least one entity and at least one attribute associated with said entity.

16. The system of Claim 14, wherein said system further comprises a design database configured to receive and store said design database file.

17. The system of Claim 14, wherein said generator application is configured to convert said design database file into an extensible markup language file.

18. The system of Claim 17, wherein said computer-generated application is programmed with object technology.

19. A method for generating a software application, comprising:  
receiving system design, wherein said system design defines at least one entity;  
generating destination directories;  
generating virtual directories;  
establishing database connections;  
creating procedure code;  
creating controller classes, said controller classes providing logic for said at least one entity;  
creating object business code for said at least one entity;  
creating at least one web browser template file;  
generating security logic; and  
generating a project file.

20. The method of Claim 19, wherein receiving said system design comprises receiving an extensible markup language file associated with said system design.